

Appl. No. : 10/009,011
Filed : July 19, 2002

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1 of the Specification, immediately after the Title of the Invention, please add the following paragraph:

Related Applications

This application represents the U.S. National Phase of International Application No. PCT/US00/15527 filed June 2, 2000, designating the United States of America and published in English as WO 00/75352, which claims the benefit of priority of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/137,817 filed June 4, 1999, which is hereby expressly incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Please add the enclosed Abstract as the last page of the Specification.

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Restriction to one of the following groups was required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

Group I Claims 1-6, 9, 10, and 14-21, drawn to nucleic acid molecules comprising a chimeric BVDV genome comprising a structural region of a hepatitis C viral genome, and virus or cells comprising said nucleic acid.

Group II Claims 7-10, and 14-21, drawn to nucleic acid molecules comprising a chimeric BVDV genome comprising a non-structural region of a hepatitis C viral genome, and virus or cells comprising said nucleic acid.

Group III Claims 11-13, drawn to polypeptides encoded by a viral genome.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects Group I, that is, Claims 1-6, 9, 10, and 14-21.